

811 KAR 1:220. Harness racing at county fairs.

RELATES TO: KRS 230.215, 230.260, 230.280, 230.290, 230.310, 230.398

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 230.215, 230.260, 230.398

NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 230.215(2) and 230.260(8) authorize the commission to promulgate administrative regulations prescribing the conditions under which horse racing shall be conducted in Kentucky. KRS 230.398 authorizes the commission to promulgate administrative regulations governing the conduct of county fair races. This administrative regulation establishes conditions, races, purses, and payments in races conducted at county fairs in which funds for purses are provided by the commission, and regulates eligibility for participation in harness racing at county fairs.

Section 1. Eligibility. A horse is eligible to participate in a two (2) or three (3) year old stakes race at a county fair if:

- (1) The horse is a two (2) year old or a three (3) year old that is "Kentucky-bred" as defined in 811 KAR 1:215;
- (2) All owners of the participating horse are current members of the Kentucky Colt Racing Association, Inc.;
- (3) All owners of the participating horse hold a current license with the commission; and
- (4) The trainer and driver of the participating horse hold current licenses with the commission.

Section 2. Track Requirements. (1) A fair shall have a safe and adequate track, and the entire track, including start and finish lines, shall be visible to judges and spectators.

- (2) The track shall be inspected and approved by a representative of the commission.
- (3) A track shall have a hub rail or pylons approved by the commission.
- (4)(a) A fair shall have safe and adequate stalls for participating horses.
- (b) If permanent stalls are not available, tents or other tie-in type stalls may be used.
- (c) Except as provided by paragraph (d) of this subsection, a county fair shall not charge stall rent for horses racing at the fair.
- (d) A county fair may charge stall rent if the fair is held on state-owned property.

Section 3. Fair Fees. (1) The Kentucky Colt Racing Association fees shall be as follows:

- (a) A nomination fee of fifty (50) dollars per horse due on or before February 15 of each racing year;
 - (b) A sustaining fee of \$200 per horse due on or before April 15 of each racing year;
 - (c) A starting fee of fifty (50) dollars per horse, per fair, due at the time of entry for the fair; and
 - (d) A twenty-five (25) dollar fee per horse for starting in an overnight race, due at the time of entry for the fair.
- (2) A \$200 payment shall be due at the time of entry for a horse eligible for the fair finals.

Section 4. Officials. (1) The Kentucky Colt Racing Association shall submit to the commission, at least sixty (60) days prior to the opening of a race meeting, a written list of racing officials and applicable employees.

(2) At a county fair, there shall be at least one (1) presiding judge approved by the commission in the judges' stand. In addition, at a meeting in which races are charted, the association member shall provide both a licensed charter and licensed clerk of the course.

(3) A fair shall use licensed United States Trotting Association judges to preside over the

racing.

(4) The judges shall review the ownership of any horse that is entered in order to ensure the horse's eligibility to race.

(5) The judges may determine the validity for racing purposes of any lease, transfer, or agreement pertaining to ownership of a horse and may call for adequate evidence of ownership at any time.

(6) The judges may declare a horse ineligible to race if the ownership or control of the horse is in question.

(7) Officials shall be paid by the Kentucky Colt Racing Association.

Section 5. Starter. A fair shall use a licensed starter with adequate equipment.

Section 6. Use of Entry Fees. (1) The entry fees established in Section 3(1)(c) and (d) of this administrative regulation shall be retained by each fair as compensation for conducting its harness racing program and in reimbursement of the expenses incurred.

(2) A fair shall, upon request, make a full accounting of the entry fees to the commission.

Section 7. Application for a License and Approval for Purse Distributions. (1) The Kentucky Colt Association on behalf of a fair shall apply to the commission for a license to conduct a harness racing event. A request for pari-mutuel wagering shall be included at the time of application.

(2) Distribution of revenue for the Kentucky County Fairs shall be reviewed annually, not later than December 15 of each calendar year, by the advisory panel established in 811 KAR 1:215.

Section 8. Changes in Racing Program. A fair shall have the right to change the order of its program and to postpone or cancel an event due to bad weather or unavoidable cause. If a race is canceled because of lack of entries, entry fees shall be refunded.

Section 9. Early Closers. (1) An early closing event, and all divisions of that event, shall race a single heat at a distance of one (1) mile and shall be contested for a purse approved by the commission on an annual basis.

(2) An early closing race shall be contested regardless of the number of entries. However, a fair may cancel an overnight race with less than five (5) entries.

Section 10. Number of Starters and Purse Distributions. There shall be no more than two (2) trailers in any race at a county fair.

(1) On a one (1) mile track, there shall be ten (10) horses on the gate and the race shall split on eleven (11) horses..

(2) On a half mile track or five-eighths mile track, there shall be five (5) horses on the gate with two (2) trailers and the race shall split on eight (8) horses.

(3) The purse for each race shall be divided as follows:

(a) Five (5) starters - fifty (50) percent, twenty-five (25) percent, twelve (12) percent, eight (8) percent, and five (5) percent;

(b) Four (4) starters - fifty (50) percent, twenty-five (25) percent, twelve (12) percent, eight (8) percent, and the remaining five (5) percent reverts back to the fund;

(c) Three (3) starters – fifty (50) percent, twenty-five (25) percent, twelve (12) percent, and the remaining thirteen (13) percent reverts back to the fund;

(d) Two (2) starters – fifty (50) percent, twenty-five (25) percent, and the remaining twenty-

five (25) percent reverts back to the fund; and

(e) One (1) starter – fifty (50) percent, and the remaining fifty (50) percent reverts back to the fund.

Section 11. Points Distribution. (1) Points shall be awarded in an early closing race, and any division of an early closing race, as follows:

- (a) First place finisher - fifty (50) points;
- (b) Second place finisher - twenty-five (25) points;
- (c) Third place finisher - twelve (12) points;
- (d) Fourth place finisher - eight (8) points;
- (e) Fifth place finisher - five (5) points; and
- (f) Each starter that finishes out of the money - one (1) point.

(2) If two (2) horses dead-heat for any position, they shall each receive one-half (1/2) of the points awarded for that position and one-half (1/2) of the points awarded for the next lower position. The same procedure shall be used for the allocation of points if there is a dead-heat of three (3) or more horses.

(3) A horse that is declared in and then is the subject of a judge's scratch shall be awarded one (1) point based upon the decision of the presiding judge. This decision shall be final.

(4) If there is a tie among two (2) or more horses with the same number of points, the tie shall be resolved in favor of the horse with the higher earnings in the early closing fair events in which the horses have competed.

(5) If any division of a race is rained out before the completion of all other divisions of that race, the points for distribution set forth in this section, shall not apply and instead, one (1) point shall be awarded to each horse entered in each division of that race that was rained out.

Section 12. Entry Limitation. A horse shall not be allowed to compete in more than one (1) race at any fair.

Section 13. Drug Testing. (1) The winning horse at a fair race and any other horse or horses as selected by the judges may be subjected to a drug test as set forth in 811 KAR 1:090 and 811 KAR 1:260.

(2) A fair shall provide two (2) enclosed stalls and bedding to be used by the commission veterinarian for drug testing.

(3) The stalls required by subsection (2) of this section shall be located as close to the race track as possible.

(4) The stalls shall be positioned to allow the track announcer to be heard.

Section 14. Coggins Test. A current negative Coggins test shall be required for each horse racing at a fair.

Section 15. Drivers. A driver shall wear full colors, white pants, a safety vest that meets the standards set forth in 811 KAR 1:075, Section 21, and a safety helmet that meets the standards set forth in 811 KAR 1:075, Section 20, if on the track less than one (1) hour before the start of a fair racing program.

Section 16. Trophies. A fair shall provide a trophy or blanket to the winner of a race. If a race is contested in heats or divisions, the trophy shall be presented to the winner of the fastest heat or division.

Section 17. Early Deadlines. The deadline for entries at a fair shall be set by the Kentucky Colt Racing Association at its annual October meeting preceding the racing year.

Section 18. Programs. A county fair track holding races for purses shall provide a printed program available to the public containing the following information for:

- (1) Non pari-mutuel tracks:
 - (a) Horse's name and sex;
 - (b) Color and age of horse;
 - (c) Sire and dam of horse;
 - (d) Owner's name;
 - (e) Driver's name and colors;
 - (f) Trainer's name; and
 - (g) Summary of starts in purse races, earnings, and the best win time for the current and preceding year. A horse's best win time may be earned in either a purse or nonpurse race; and
- (2) Pari-mutuel tracks:
 - (a) All of the program information required by subsection (1) of this section;
 - (b) At least the last six (6) performance and accurate chart lines. An accurate chart line shall include:
 1. Date of race;
 2. Location of race;
 3. Size of track if other than a half mile track;
 4. Symbol for free-legged pacers;
 5. Track condition;
 6. Type of race;
 7. Distance;
 8. The fractional times of the leading horse including race times;
 9. Post position;
 10. Position of the one-quarter (1/4) marker, the one-half (1/2) marker, and the three-quarters (3/4) marker;
 11. Stretch with lengths behind leader;
 12. Finish with lengths behind leader;
 13. Individual time of the horse;
 14. Closing dollar odds;
 15. Name of the driver;
 16. Names of the horses that placed first, second, and third by the judges; and
 17. Standard symbols for breaks and park-outs, if applicable;
 - (c) Indicate drivers racing with a provisional license; and
 - (d) Indicate pacers that are racing without hobbles.

Section 19. Payments. Nomination and sustaining payments shall be made to the Kentucky Colt Racing Association. Entry fees shall be paid to the fair for which the entry is taken.

Section 20. Violations. A person or association that violates a provision of this administrative regulation shall have committed a Category 1 violation and shall be subject to the penalties set forth in 811 KAR 1:095. (12 Ky.R. 1569; eff. 4-17-1986; Am. 27 Ky.R. 2593; 3099; eff. 5-14-2001; 33 Ky.R. 988; 1817; eff. 2-2-2007; 37 Ky.R. 1089; Am. 1654; eff. 2-4-2011; 40 Ky.R. 711; 1073; eff. 12-6-2013; 43 Ky.R. 1299, 1564; eff. 3-31-2017 – 44 Ky.R. 1710, 2023; eff. 4-6-2018.)